



LIBRARY



ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

for the Year 1941
-----oOo-----

ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Staff

- (1) Medical Officer of Health (Part time) - Thomas Forsyth, M.B.
Ch.B. (Glas), D.P.H. (Camb).
- (2) Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector (Full time) -
George E. Marlow, M.Inst.M. & C.Y.E. Cert. R.S.I.
-

To
The Chairman and Members of the
Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report on the Sanitary
State of your District for the year 1941.

SECTION A :-

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	6,190 acres.
Population	6,356
Number of Inhabited Houses	1,770
Rateable Value	£35714
Sum respresented by a Penny Rate	£107

Ashby-de-la-Zouch is a market town, the chief industries
of the District are:-

Agriculture, Coalmining, Earthenware, Brickmaking and Biscuit
making. No Industry was noted as having a specially injurious
effect on the health of the population.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births		For I.M. etc.		For Birth Rate.		
Legitimate	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female.
	83	46	37	79	43	36
Illegitimate	2	2	0	2	2	0
	<u>85</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>36</u>

Birth Rate - 12.74 per 1000 population.

England and Wales Birth Rate, 1941 - 14.2 per 1000 population.

Still Births		Total	Male	Female
Legitimate		3	1	2
Illegitimate		0	0	0
		<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

Still Birth Rate - 35.71 per 1000 population (Live and Still Births)

or Still Birth Rate - 0.47 per 1000 population.

England and Wales Still Birth Rate - 0.51 per 1000 population.

DEATHS

<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
86	42	44

Death Rate - 13.5 per 1000 population.

England and Wales Death Rate - 12.9 per 1000 population.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:-

From Sepsis - Nil

From other Maternal Causes - Nil

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:-

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	4	3	1
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>

Infantile Mortality Rate - 47 per 1000 Live Births.

England and Wales Infantile Mortality Rate - 59 per 1000 Live Births.

Death Rate of Legitimate Infants - 48.1 per 1000 Legitimate Live Births

Death Rate of Illegitimate Infants - Nil per 1000 Illegitimate Live Births

Deaths occurred from the following diseases during 1941:-

Cancer	{all ages}	12
Measles	{all ages}	0
Diphtheria	{all ages}	1
Whooping Cough	{all ages}	0
Diarrhoea	{under 2 years}	0

Causes of Death in 1941

	Male	Female	Total
Cerebro Spinal Fever...	0	1	1
Diphtheria...	0	1	1
Influenza ...	1	1	2
Cancer (Buccal)...	0	2	2
Cancer (Stomach and Duodenal) ...	3	1	4
Cancer of Breast..	0	2	2
Cancer (all other sites) ...	3	1	4
Intracranial Vasc. Lesions..	4	6	10
Heart Diseases ..	12	13	25
Other Diseases of Circulatory ...	3	0	3
Bronchitis ..	0	3	3
Pneumonia ..	2	0	2
Other Respiratory Diseases..	1	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenal ...	1	1	2
Other Digestive Diseases ...	1	2	3
Nephritis ...	3	0	3
Premature Births..	1	0	1
Congenital Malf: etc...	1	1	2
Road Traffic Accidents. ...	0	1	1
Other Violent Causes...	3	1	4
All other Causes..	3	6	9
	<u>42</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>86</u>

The chief causes of Death in 1941 were:-

Heart Disease 25 - Cancer (all forms) 12 - Cerebral Haemorrhage 10
Bronchitis 3 - Pneumonia (all forms) 2 - Tuberculosis Nil.

SECTION B :-

General Provision of Health Services for the Area

Hospitals

- Fever Hospitals are provided by the Leicestershire Combined Hospitals Committee. The nearest to your District is Markfield Isolation Hospital.
- Smallpox Hospitals for the treatment of Smallpox are provided by the Leicestershire County Council at Snarestone (23 beds) and Syston (15 beds).
- Tuberculosis The County Sanatorium at Markfield with 126 beds is adequate for the diagnosis and treatment of all types of Tuberculosis.
- Maternity Provision is made for cases requiring Institutional treatment in the Leicestershire Maternity Hospital, and in Leicester Royal Infirmary. Ashby Cottage Hospital Maternity Wing is much used by residents from your Area and from the surrounding Areas. Fairhaven Nursing and Maternity Home at Shellbrook, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, is also available for cases of Midwifery.
- Children Children are admitted to Leicester Royal Infirmary and Loughborough Infirmary. Ashby Cottage Hospital admit children and many cases of enlarged Tonsils and adenoids, and other major operations such as appendices were operated on by the Honorary Surgeon Mr. R. Fowick F.R.C.S.
- Other Delicate and illnourished children (3 to 5 years) are admitted to the Childrens Convalescent Home, Woodhouse Eaves.

Ambulance Facilities:-

Infectious diseases are removed in Ambulances provided by the Leicestershire Combined Isolation Hospitals Committee.

Non-Infectious diseases and Civilian Accidents. The St. Johns' Ambulance Brigade (Coalville) provides an Ambulance.

Colliery accidents are provided with Ambulances maintained by the Colliery Owners Association.

Clinics and Treatment Centres:-

These are provided by the Leicestershire County Council. An Infant Welfare Centre is held weekly in the Baptist Schoolroom, Brook Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch. The nearest School Clinic is held at the Health Centre, Bridge Road, Coalville. An Orthopaedic Clinic is held at Bridge Road, Coalville. A Tuberculosis Dispensary is held weekly at Coalville. Venereal Diseases Clinic is held at Leicester Royal Infirmary.

Nursing in the Homes:-

The Ashby-de-la-Zouch Nursing Association provides a District Nurse. Infectious Diseases are not attended by the District Nurse. No provision is made for nursing such diseases as Measles etc., in the homes.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply

Water is supplied by the Swadlincote and Ashby Joint Water Board from the Melton Reservoir. With the exception of a few outlying properties the whole of the Urban District is supplied with water from the Public Mains.

Number of samples taken for Analysis:-

Results

Source of Samples	Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
	Chemical	Bacteriological	Chemical	Bacteriological
From Wells	-	-	1	1
From Pipe Supply	-	-	-	-

Number of wells closed Nil - Number of wells cleansed Nil

Number of cases in which piped supply was substituted for well water 2.

No extensions of Public Water supply were carried out during the year.

The quality of the Public Supply water is satisfactory.

There was no shortage of water during 1941.

Arrangements have been made with adjoining Local Authorities to provide supplementary supplies of water in case of emergency.

Drainage and Sewerage:-

Number of cesspools constructed during the year	1
Number of cesspools abolished during the year	Nil
Total number in District on 31st. December, 1941.	147

There has been no extension of sewers and no alteration or extension to Sewage Disposal Works during 1941.

No new scheme is under consideration at present.

Closet Accommodation:-

Total number in District on 31st. December, 1941:-

(1)	Privies	-----	71
(2)	Pail-Closets	----	49
(3)	Water-Closets	----	1112

No conversions of either Privies or Pails were made to the Water Carriage system during the year.

No Privies were converted to Pail-Closets during 1941.

Public Cleansing

House refuse is collected weekly by the Council's workmen with a covered motor vehicle and conveyed to a suitable tip where it is deposited in shallow layers and covered with earth.

Public Cleansing (Contd.)

Earth Closets, Privies and Cesspools are cleansed by the Council's workmen and the contents are deposited on arable land and ploughed in. Ashpits are emptied at frequent intervals.

In the Parish of Blackfordby the removal of House Refuse and the cleansing of Privies and Cesspools is carried out by Contractors under the supervision of the Council's Sanitary Inspector and the contents disposed of in a similar manner to that mentioned above.

Beyond a slight lengthening of the intervals between Refuse collection no noticeable strain has been put on the Sanitary Services by reason of evacuation or other causes.

Salvage:-

Salvage is collected by the Local Authority.
Waste food is collected by Local Pig and Poultry keepers.
Salvage is collected weekly and comprises:-

Waste paper - Bones - Bottles - Scrap Iron -
Tins - Rubber - Rags

The collection of salvage lengthens the intervals between Refuse Collection by about half a day each week.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area:-

Total number of complaints received 32
Total number of defects and nuisances discovered 186

	Inspections.	Revisits
Dwelling Houses (all purposes)	93	36
Tents, Vans etc.	0	0
Slaughter Houses	201	0
Food Premises	50	4
Dairies and Cowsheds	48	8
Offensive Trades	4	0
Animal Keeping	6	2
Workshops etc.	10	3
Shops	10	4
Other Premises	39	12
TOTAL	461	69

Notices:-

PRELIMINARY	HOUSING	OTHER
Outstanding on 1st. January, 1941.	8	2
Issued during year	73	64
Complied with during year	70	58
Statutory action necessary	5	2
Outstanding on 31st. December, 1941.	6	4

(2)

(2)

STATUTORY	HOUSING	OTHER
Outstanding on 1st. January, 1941	8	3
Issued during year	5	2
Complied with during year	11	3
Outstanding 31st. December, 1941	2	2

Summary Action

No. of Summonses Issued
Nil

No. of convictions obtained
Nil

SHOPS:-

Action taken during the year under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934.

	Outstanding from previous Year.	Defects found	Defects Remedied	Outstanding 31st. Dec. '42
Sanitary Conveniences	0	2	2	0
Temperature	0	0	0	0
Ventilation	0	0	0	0

CAMPING SITES:-

Nil.

REGULATED BUILDINGS:-

Regulated Buildings	No. in District	No. of Inspections	Action taken	General Conditions
Common Lodging Houses	1	4	Nil	Satisfact:
Tents, Vans etc.	0	0	0	-
Canal Boats	0	0	0	-
Offensive Trades	1	4	Nil	Satisfact:

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS:-

Number of Council Houses infested Nil
Number of other dwelling houses found infested 2
Number of houses disinfected 2

The Local Authority carried out the disinfection of these two houses by spraying with Zaldecide fluid and fumigation with Cimex fumigator.

SCHOOLS:-

Number of Schools disinfected Nil

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Number in Area:-

(a) Publicly owned 1
(b) Privately owned Nil.

The Public Swimming pool has not been opened this year owing to the difficulty in finding a suitable caretaker.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

MILK SUPPLY

Cowkeepers

Number on Register	36
Number of Inspections made :	36
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year ..	2
Number of contraventions found during year	12
Number of contraventions remedied during year ..	12
Number of contraventions outstanding on 31st. December ...	2

Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than cowkeepers)

Number on Register	9
Number of Inspections made :	12
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year ...	1
Number of contraventions found during year	5
Number of contraventions remedied during year ..	5
Number of contraventions outstanding on 31st. December ...	1

Total Contraventions

	Outstanding from previous year	Found during year	Remedied during year	Outstanding on 31st. December
Cleansing	1	10	9	1
Structural Alterations	1	3	2	1
Utensils	0	0	0	0
Other	1	4	3	1

Milk Sampling

Class	Total No. of samples taken for exam.	Number Satisfactory	Number Unsatis:
"Tuberculin Tested"	-	-	-
"Accredited"	-	-	-
"Pasteurised"	-	-	-
Ordinary	-	-	-

The Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1936 - 1941

No. of Licences issued in respect of								
"Tuberculin Tested"			"Accredited"			"Pasteurised"		
Bottling	Distribution		Bottling	Distribution		Pasteur	Retail Dis:	
Dealers	Supple-		Dealers	Supple-		ising	Dealers	Supp:
	mentary			mentary		plants	ment:	
-	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	1

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Number of Regional Slaughter houses in Area	2 (both closed) 21.11.41.
Number of animals slaughtered in Area.	5991
Number of animals examined in Area	-
Number of animals slaughtered elsewhere	-
Number of animals examined elsewhere..	-
Number of inspections of meat at time of slaughter..	192
Number of Knacker Yards in Area	1
Number of visits to Knacker Yards	8

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle and cows	Calves	Sheep & lambs	Pigs	Total weight in lbs
No. killed (if Known)	895	298	4465	333	-
Number inspected					
All diseases except <u>Tuberculosis</u> Whole carcasses condemned	12	7	17	6	6705
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	77	10	27	9	3607
Percentage of Number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.					
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u> Whole carcasses condemned	21				10519
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	25				1149
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.					

MEAT STALLS:-

Number of inspections Nil

MEAT SHOPS, MEAT STORES, ETC.

Number of Inspections 36

Places where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale:-

Number of inspections 14

Five Informal Notices were issued and were complied with.

The following were condemned and destroyed:-

24	lbs.	tinned beef
26	tins	milk
28	lbs.	stewed steak
8	lbs.	meat roll
14	lbs.	cod fish
24	tins	soup
250		eggs

HOUSING

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

- | | | | |
|-----|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | (a) | Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 92 |
| | (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose | 128 |
| (2) | (a) | Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932. | 12 |
| | (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose | 16 |
| (3) | | Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. | 0 |
| (4) | | Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation... .. | 56 |

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of Informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.38

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:-

- | | | | |
|-----|---|---|-----|
| (a) | Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936. | | |
| | (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs... .. | 10 |
| | (2) | Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:- | |
| | | (a) by owners | 4 |
| | | (b) by Local Authority in default of owners. | 6 |
| (b) | Proceedings under Public Health Acts:- | | |
| | (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 8 |
| | (2) | Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:- | |
| | | (a) by owners | 6 |
| | | (b) by Local Authority in default of owners. | 0 |
| (c) | Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:- | | |
| | (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. | Nil |
| | (2) | Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | Nil |

3. (d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-
 (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... Nil
 (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... Nil

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936, - PART 4 - OVERCROWDING:-

- (a) (1) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of year Nil
 (2) Number of families dwelling therein. ... Nil
 (3) Number of persons dwelling therein.. ... Nil
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year-Nil
- (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year 2
 (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... 16
- (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding. ... Nil

Prevalence of, and Control over
Infectious Diseases

Notifiable Diseases (Other than Tuberculosis) during 1941

DISEASES	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	17	12	0
Whooping Cough	13	0	0
Diphtheria	10	10	1
Erysipelas	3	0	0
Measles	17	0	0
Acute Pneumonia	7	0	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	3	0
Chicken Pox	18	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever	3	3	1

Age Distribution of Cases of Infectious Diseases

Age Period	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas
0 - 1	-	-	-	-
1 - 2	-	-	-	-
2 - 3	-	-	-	-
3 - 4	-	-	-	-
4 - 5	2	-	1	-
5 - 10	11	7	-	-
10 - 15	4	-	-	-

Age Period	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas
15 - 20	-	1	1	-
20 - 35	-	1	2	1
35 - 45	-	1	1	1
45 - 65	-	-	1	1
65 and over	-	-	-	-

A scheme of Immunisation against Diphtheria was commenced in the Spring of 1941. At the 31st. December, 1941 the following numbers had completed the treatment:-

1 - 4 (inclusive) - 76
5 -14 (inclusive) -690

The treatment was carried out by sessions held at the Schools in the District.

Comparison of the Case Rates of Ashby Urban District 1941 with corresponding Case Rates for England and Wales.

Diseases	Ashby Urban District.	England and Wales
Scarlet Fever	2.67 per 1000 population	1.47 per 1000 populat:
Diphtheria	1.5 " " "	1.25 " " "
Erysipelas	0.47 " " "	0.3 " " "
Measles	2.67 " " "	10.33 " " "
Whooping Cough	2.04 " " "	4.39 " " "

Prevention of Blindness:-

No action was taken under section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936 for the prevention of blindness.

Tuberculosis:-

Four new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during 1941. All were transfers from other District. Two male Respiratory Cases aged 9 years and 24 years. One female Respiratory Case aged 49 years. One female Non-Respiratory Case aged 10 years.

One death occurred in a Female Respiratory case aged 49 years in a Nursing Home. This death was transferred to the District from which she had recently transferred.

No action has been taken under the Public Health Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations 1925 or under Section 172 Public Health Act, 1936.

The District possesses two well equipped Parks (14 acres in all) for open air sports and recreation. The larger Park (The Hood Park) contains an Open Air Swimming Pool which has been closed during the year. Both Parks and Swimming Pool were presented to the Town by the Late Sir Joseph Hood, Bart.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Sanitary Inspector Mr. George E. Marlow for his very valuable help in compiling this Report. Many of the details are taken from his Annual Summary.

I remain, Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,
THOMAS FORSYTH,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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